JAN 2 5 2011

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Attorney Docket No.: HNMDNN00102

thereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" [37 CFR 1.8(a)] on the date shown below.

Date: January 25 2011

Signature:

(Laura L. Gallagher)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED

FEB 01 2011

Application No.:

09/898,726

6,626,899

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

Confirmation No.:

4439

Filing Date:

Patent No.:

July 3, 2001

Inventor(s):

Russell A. HOUSER et al.

Title:

APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR TREATING TISSUE

NOTIFICATION OF LOSS OF ENTITLEMENT TO SMALL ENTITY STATUS

Mail Stop Post Issue Fee Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants hereby notify the Patent and Trademark Office that they are no longer desirous of small entity status and that the claim for small entity status is hereby withdrawn. This notice is being filed after the payment of the Issue Fee.

Applicants are submitting the deficiency payment owed for each previous fee erroneously paid as a small entity, as required under 37 CFR §1.28(c).

The Maintenance Fee was erroneously paid as a small entity in the amount of \$450 on March 30, 2007. The current Maintenance Fee amount for a non-small entity is \$980. The deficiency owed amount for the Maintenance Fee is \$530. Therefore, the total deficiency payment owed is \$530; the required payment is being concurrently submitted.

1 of 2

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Respectfully submitted,

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